

times as great as is that of the larger journal, and it should be always, as it is now, for the best and for what is right, irrespective of any commercial influence. The State Association journal is more than a medical journal; it is the means of communication among the members of a large family. It is the organ of the county society as well as of the State Association, and as such comes so intimately into relations with every member that its influence cannot but be great.

It has been said that to speak the fearless truth is a luxury that few can afford. This may be true. Certainly it entails trouble to the speaker. But ought not a great and powerful organization of medical men such as is represented by your State Association—ought not such an organization to have some absolutely untrammelled and unbiased means of speaking much needed truths? Can you not afford the luxury of continuing the good work you have undertaken? All people, no matter what their walk in life or their life's work, need constant instruction in their duty and in those things which pertain to the best and the right work. Therefore we have trade journals of all kinds; therefore we should have a medical journal, owned and controlled by the State Association, in every state in the Union.

But many large advertisers do not like a medical journal that tells the truth. True; and we have incurred the enmity of some such. But we have also gained the friendship of many others, and we have gained the approval of our members. The component societies which go to make up our State Society, way out here on the shores of the broad Pacific, have begun to officially adopt resolutions pledging themselves to the right policy, and in due course all of them will probably act.

Not only should it be the duty of every State Association to publish its own journal, but to my mind it is the only way in which full and complete organization can be secured, and when secured, maintained. The problem of keeping up interest and maintaining the medical organization is a large one. Your editor has the major portion of the work on his shoulders, for your journal must accomplish the task. He will have much work and plenty of criticism; but he is well endowed with those qualities which go to make for success, and he can handle the situation. He has given you a good journal to start with; help him to give you a good journal for many years to come, and so help yourselves.

CORRECTION IN PRELIMINARY PROGRAM.

On page 101, in the Scientific Program, under "Surgery and Anatomy," the title of Dr. Terry's paper should read "Cases of" instead of "Codes of."

Under "Obstetrics" the author's name should be Charlotte J. Baker, San Diego.

MEDICAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE.

In response to the request of the Chairman of the National Committee, the representative of the auxiliary Committee for California, Dr. Philip Mills Jones, telegraphed to the President and wrote to the senators and representatives of California in Washington, urging the appointment of Col. Gorgas upon the Panama Canal Commission. The County representatives were also requested to take similar action, and it is hoped that they did so promptly. While the request came too late to do any good, at present, it may have some effect eventually. At any rate, it is just as well to get the newly installed machinery of organization oiled up and try the wheels before the great occasion arises.

ALAMEDA COUNTY ANNUAL DINNER.

On the evening of March 8th, the Alameda County Medical Association gave its annual dinner, which was, as usual, a great success. The dinner was given at the Athenian Club, in Oakland, and the large table was well filled. Dr. Maher presided and was a most felicitous toast-master. Several guests from San Francisco were present and it was noted that most of them did not try to escape until barely time for the last boat. The annual dinner is an excellent institution and should be encouraged; it does vastly more to promote harmony and good feeling than the casual observer would suppose. It is also an excellent idea to invite the editor of the JOURNAL; that also promotes harmony.

MEETING OF HEALTH OFFICIALS.

On Saturday, March 12, there was a joint meeting of representatives of the Federal, State and San Francisco health authorities held at the office of the Marine Hospital Laboratory. The Marine Hospital Service was represented by Past Assistant Surgeon Dr. Rupert Blue, Dr. O'Neill and Dr. Matheson; the State Board of Health by Dr. M. Regensburger and Dr. N. K. Foster; the local Board by Dr. J. W. Ward, Dr. D. F. Ragan and Dr. W. C. Hassler. The condition of Chinatown, in San Francisco, was the chief subject under discussion, and the reports of inspecting officers went to show that the district is in a very much more sanitary condition than it was some months ago, the improvement having been accomplished since the various health departments have been working harmoniously together.

SPITTING ON TRANSFERS.

Just after the last number of the JOURNAL was closed and ready for the press, a member of the Publication Committee noticed the following telegraphic note, which is so directly in line with one of our editorials of last month that it is here reprinted:

LOCKJAW CAUSED BY CUT FROM TRANSFER.

New York, Feb. 18.—Lockjaw caused by a cut on the hand from a transfer slip has caused the death of George Powers, a street-car conductor here. The cut was sustained two weeks ago while Powers was tearing the slip from his book for a passenger.

In this connection the Board of Health has issued a mandate forbidding conductors to moisten their fingers with saliva in order to separate the transfers before delivering them to passengers. Fears of disseminating disease germs caused the board's action.

The University of Munich is reported to have been opened to women students on the same basis as men. The gymnasium course and certificate are required of those who are recognized as regular students; those not having these requirements are admitted merely as "hearers."